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W. R. HEARST.

AN AMERICAN PAPER FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

A TASK FOR AMERICAN WOMEN.

If the women of America desire to do something toward suppressing the deadly wrong to their sex that is threatened by the growing insolence of the polygamists of Utah, now is their time to act. The Journal this morning shows them the need and the way.

Representative Fleming, of Georgia, while fully sharing the indignation aroused by the insult flung in the faces of the wives and mothers of America by the election of the Turk, Roberts, to Congress, holds that there is no constitutional power to deprive the man of his seat. "While the House," he says, "is judge of the eligibility of its members, this power does not extend to cases where the certificate of election has been issued by the Governor of a State."

This view is held by many other members of Congress. While the Journal does not agree with it—while it is confident that the constitutional power of the House to exclude any member whose seat is contested, or to expel him by a two-thirds vote after his admission, is unlimited—the fact that the contrary opinion is held by men in a position to give effect to it by their votes emphasizes the necessity of making the exclusion of self-confessed criminals from Congress not merely permissible, but mandatory.

We want a constitutional provision that will not merely allow Congress to keep out a polygamist, but that will forbid it to let him in.

Here is the opportunity of the women of America. On the first page of to-day's Journal is printed a form of petition praying the House to refuse to seat Brigham H. Roberts, and calling for the adoption of a constitutional amendment making all polygamists ineligible to public office.

The women of America can make that petition a power that no Congress can resist.

Let them sign and circulate it everywhere. Let them go systematically to work in every Congressional district in the United States. There is not a single district outside of Utah whose Representative cannot be besieged by the demand of ten thousand of his constituents if the women resolve in earnest that he shall be. There is not a Representative who would dare to resist such a demand.

Shall the harem become an American institution? It is for American women to say.

THE GRIP IN OLD AGE.

An infectious process like grip in the aged presents peculiar dangers and possible complications. The whole organism is in the decline of life, with thinned and brittle arteries, a worn heart, and a general condition of nutrition where building up of tissue goes on more slowly than waste. Expenditure has ceased to bear the relationship of middle life, of steady income and normal interest. The aged are always living on their principal, as far as force and resistance are concerned, and have but little reserve for serious accidents. Then, many persons past their prime eat more than they require and take less exercise than is needed. Hence, four important factors generally combine to render prognosis at least guarded—degenerate blood vessels, a weak heart, impaired nutrition, and poor digestion.

First, put the patient in a warm, well-ventilated room, keeping the bed warm with hot water bottles and warm but not cumbersome coverings. Give a very small dose of calomel and soda, and small quantities of liquid nourishment at frequent intervals, possibly an hour apart. Heart tonics, as strychnine, nitro-glycerine, digitalis or strophanthus, may be imperative, and in doses varying according to circumstances. Whiskey is usually required, sometimes in fairly large quantities. Supporting treatment is needed throughout the whole course of the disease. As gastric symptoms are often marked, agents to allay distress and pain and aid digestion, as nuxvomica, various preparations of soda and numerous household remedies, serve an excellent purpose. Milk should be peptonized, and all food made palatable.

The most serious dangers are the possibility of heart failure and the tendency to capillary bronchitis that so often proves fatal in these cases. To aid breathing and the dislodgement of mucus the tea-kettle kept constantly boiling day and night in the room, together with the wise administration of expectorants, will often prove of real service. Convalescence is slower in old people than in others. They may never be well after an attack of grip, if the case is severe. A change of climate is advisable, whenever it can be secured without too many pangs at parting from loved associations. It is doubtful if any climate at the price of unhappiness can restore strength. It is during recovery that those advanced in years still require skilled medical attention, for their depressed vital forces then need every aid known to modern medicine.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

General O. O. Howard, retired, told the war investigators yesterday that he had been bitterly disappointed at not being assigned to active service in the field, but that he had done the next best thing for his country by "accepting the office of visiting delegate for the Army and Navy Christian Commission, and distributing tracts and other things through the Southern camps." The "other things," he explained later, included hymn books and ice water. General Howard's testimony opens for us

a vista of the Might Have Been which suffuses our souls with a vast, illimitable regret. Just imagine how different history would have been if Shafter, instead of conducting a campaign in Cuba from his hammock, had been assigned to distributing tracts, hymn books and ice water!

A well-known newspaper man has submitted to the Journal the following proposition:

"W. R. Hearst, Esq., Editor of the Journal: 'I can give you for \$250, for publication on Sunday morning, a feature of national interest. It will be a statement signed or authorized by Andrew Carnegie, giving an account of his interview with W. J. Bryan, expressing his approval of Colonel Bryan's views on expansion and generally endorsing the latter as a thoughtful, patriotic American. Let me know your decision at once in regard to this matter.'

The Journal's decision is that it does not want the article for publication and would not print it under any circumstances, even as an advertisement. To print praise of Colonel Bryan from such a man as Andrew Carnegie would be to damage the Democratic party and wantonly and unjustly to injure the reputation of Colonel Bryan. Mr. Carnegie sought an interview with Colonel Bryan, which the latter would doubtless have gladly escaped had it been possible to do so. We do not believe that Mr. Carnegie would so far violate the decencies of social intercourse as to make capital of a private interview, but Mr. Carnegie has demonstrated that his ways are devious and uncertain. We can only say to our correspondent that if the matter which he offers is indeed for sale the Journal certainly does not want it.

Opinions which the Journal wishes from Colonel Bryan it will obtain from him direct and over his own signature.

A MEDDLESOME CHAIRMAN.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Keeley Motor Company in Philadelphia had to be adjourned to prevent those present from mutually punching heads and biting noses. It is a pity that there was any interference with such a course of events. The man who postponed the session was blocking the progress of Providence. If a Keeley motor stockholder who has deliberately invested his cash in the enterprise can get a fellow victim to thump him he is saved the trouble of kicking himself, which he will eventually do when he wakes up.

The motor is based on the labor-saving idea. Here was a chance for the stockholders to save themselves the work of self-punishment, and they unaccountably disregarded it. The real province of the Keeley motor at this time is not to move, but to afford amusement to a tired public. The chairman who interferences with that great end is guilty of a lamentable indiscretion.

TIME IS NO OBJECT TO Congress. Neither is money. The people of the country pay for one and supply the other.

AN INSULT TO AMERICAN WOMANHOOD.

Roberts, of Utah, cannot be seated in the House of Representatives without striking a blow at the American home and disgracing the Republic in the eyes of the Christian world.

To admit this man as a member of the National Legislature would be to turn backward the hands of the clock which marks the progress of civilization.

He stands for the degradation of woman, for a relation of the sexes which all save the savage and semi-barbarous races have outgrown. He represents a moral and religious condition of thought and conduct that must not be tolerated if there is to be respect among us for Christian motherhood. Also he stands for an impudent and criminal breach of faith upon the part of the majority of the people of Utah, which must be condemned and punished by his expulsion from the House of Representatives. Utah was admitted to the Union upon agreement that the Mormons would abandon polygamy. Roberts is a notorious and confessed polygamist. No matter what his majority may have been at the polls, no matter how fair the count of the votes which elected him, his candidacy was an advertisement of Mormon duplicity and an announcement to the people of the United States that the Church of Brigham Young held in higher reverence the revelations of Joseph Smith than it did the written and freely adopted Constitution of Utah.

The intelligence, the modern sense, the Americanism of Congress are directly challenged by Roberts, the Mormon with three acknowledged wives. To seat him would be to deny that monogamous marriage is the law and custom of the United States. It would be to assert that under pretence of religious conviction any man may violate as he pleases the code of morals which is accepted among us. A man who is not himself pure may yet understand and revere purity, but one who erects debasement of women into a pious virtue is an enemy, not merely of decent life, but of right thinking. He is on a par with the Thugs of India, who made a religion of murder.

The Mormons of Utah in electing Roberts have said to the people of the United States that they still believe in polygamy and mean to practise it in spite of Utah's Constitution. The reply of the people of the United States to that insolent defiance should be made promptly and sternly by their representatives in Congress, regardless of politics. Roberts calls himself a Democrat, but though he possessed a hundred votes, every Democrat in the House who honors his own wife and feels as a man ought toward his mother and sisters should vote to unseat him.

The Journal in urging this course does it in behalf of American civilization, in behalf of morals, and, more than all, in behalf of the women of America.

It is unthinkable that the House of Representatives will offer to them a foul affront by receiving into fellowship a man who makes a religion of reducing them to the Turkish level and teaching them that God created them to be harem slaves.

Each house of Congress is the sole judge of the qualifications of its members. The Journal is confident that the House will champion the womanhood of the Republic and send Roberts back to Utah with his seraglio, the last of the polygamists that Utah will dare to elect to Congress.

But to make sure, let every American woman sign the petition on the first page of to-day's Journal.

WE WILL FORTIFY THE CANAL,

AND ENGLAND WILL NOT OBJECT, IS THE OPINION OF A HIGH OFFICIAL.

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA.

CHOLLY KNICKERBOCKER DISCUSSES ANGLO-AMERICAN MATCH-MAKING.

FORTIFYING THE CANAL.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—The following interview is just now, in view of the prominence of the Nicaragua Canal project, of the greatest interest. It was only granted to me with express stipulation that the name of the giver should not be mentioned.—Rene Bache.

YOU may state it as a fact that we shall fortify the Nicaragua Canal, and that England will offer no opposition to our doing so. There is not going to be any dispute on the subject. As for the little Central American Republic, she will do anything to get the ditch dug, and so will agree to whatever we decide upon.

These significant remarks were made yesterday by a high official, who, next after President McKinley, is best qualified to speak as an authority on the subject. He added:

"The canal will be fortified with the strongest works that modern military engineers know how to construct. Its entrances will be guarded by forts capable of 'standing off' the mightiest fleets. And why not, indeed? If we are to retain the use of the ditch in time of war, we must provide adequate means for defending it. To leave it undefended would be the wildest folly, inasmuch as under such circumstances the enemy would be enabled to cut off our inter-oceanic communication, thus not only hampering our trade, but preventing the passage of our fighting ships from ocean to ocean. No nation with ordinary common sense would be guilty of such a strategic blunder. A combatant does not deliberately expose his vitals to the adversary."

"The gun power required to defend the sea gates of the canal is an unknown quantity as yet; it has not been figured out. No plans have even been drawn for the fortifications, which will doubtless be begun before the digging of the ditch itself is completed. All that can be said is that the forts will consist of masonry emplacements, in which high-power, breech-loading rifles with disappearing carriages will be set. Such works are composed primarily of an inclined plane of solid concrete rising gradually from the seashore and covered over with several feet of earth. To knock them down, an attacking fleet must destroy the very landscape, and the best aimed shells have no effect unless they happen to burst directly over the stone-walled gun pits in the rear."

"Now, the number of guns required to protect a shore position depends, obviously, upon the tonnage of war ships that can be brought to attack it. If there is a wide, deep-water harbor into which a hostile fleet may venture, the strength of the defensive works must be very much greater than in a case where the enemy's vessels can approach only through a narrow channel. Fortunately, in the case of the Nicaragua Canal, both the Atlantic and Pacific entrances have to be dug out so as to form artificial harbors, and these can be made of the shape that is most desirable from a strategic point of view."

"On the Atlantic side, at Greytown, there is a shelving beach, enclosing a large lagoon. The

water is shallow off the coast, and it will be necessary to run out jetties and excavate the channel. On the Pacific coast the terminal chosen is at present a swamp lying between a considerable promontory, called Brito Head, and another elevated area of less height. This swamp is to be dug out to make the harbor required. It is easy to see that these bluffs will afford admirable locations for big guns, which will have the immense advantage of a plunging fire, in case the western entrance of the canal is attacked.

"In order to estimate the number of cannon required to defend the Atlantic and Pacific openings of the canal, it would be necessary to assume theoretically the maximum number of war ships that could arrive within range at one time, and to determine how many guns would be needed to stand off these vessels, the latter being reckoned not as units, but in terms of gun power. It is estimated by experts that one gun on land is equal to six on shipboard, calibre for calibre. This superiority of the gun on land, I need hardly say, is due to its better protection and to the steadiness of its platform."

"What calibre of guns, you ask, would be most useful for these defences of the canal? Well, it is not possible to answer that question without a study of the subject, which neither I nor any one else has made as yet. I should imagine that 12-inch rifles would satisfy all requirements. Weapons of that size serve all the purposes of our own coast protection, save in a few spots where we are somewhat vulnerable for lack of guns of greater carrying power and destructive force. For example, it is conceivable that a hostile fleet might pass Sandy Hook, which is somewhat damaged in the process, and rest in the lower bay of New York for further buoying out of the reach of the cannon now mounted."

"To provide against such emergencies, the War Department is preparing to make a lot of guns of extraordinary size, 16-inch calibre, which will afford adequate protection in a few vulnerable spots, where the 12-inch rifles are not high-powered enough. One of them, for example, is to be set up on Romer Shoal, off New York City, in a huge steel turret. Indeed, the affair will be a little fort in itself, built up out of the sea bottom, and threatening any hostile ship that may approach. According to the plans of the army engineers, thirty of these monster cannon are to be constructed for use in certain localities which are exceptionally exposed."

"I can see no reason, however, for supposing that such great guns will be required for the defence of the Nicaragua Canal. Twelve-inch rifles will do as well, I fancy. A gun of this size carries about twelve miles; a 16-inch gun about sixteen miles. As to range, we reckon a mile to an inch of calibre; but this, mind you, is only approximate. Furthermore, the range of a gun is not what is considered by ordnance experts in estimating the usefulness of the weapon. It is of no practical benefit that a rifle should have a range of sixteen miles; at seven miles distance a rifle is invisible on the ocean, looking from another vessel or from the beach, owing to the curvature of the earth. A gun that carries sixteen miles is more useful than a gun that throws a projectile twelve miles, simply by reason of

its superior penetrating power and destructive force."

"You must realize that the canal, notwithstanding the defensive works at its entrances, will be extremely vulnerable unless protected also by a large number of troops. Fortifications are useful only to prevent an enemy from coming ashore or approaching the land at a given point. An army might be landed at a distance from either entrance of the big ditch, and, marching overland, might cut the canal. Such a possibility could be prevented only by adequate forces acting as a guard. The blowing up of a single lock might suspend the usefulness of the canal for a year. The Suez Canal, on the other hand, has no locks, and the only way to stop it up would be to fill it in at one or more points. The Nicaragua ditch might be considered as an extremely delicate piece of mechanism, which a trifling accident will put out of order, and the care that must be taken of it is proportionately great."

"It has been urged that the nations of Europe would take offence at any attempt by Uncle Sam to fortify the canal. No doubt they will do so. However, a man is under no obligation to strip himself naked because his neighbors object to his wearing clothes. The suggestion that we could defend the ditch with ships as effectively as with forts is idiotic, inasmuch as, in the event of war with a great foreign power, we would have plenty of work elsewhere for our fighting vessels. Furthermore, as Captain Mahan, the great strategist, says, 'Greater power, defensive and offensive, can be established in permanent works than can be brought to the spot by fleets. Given a firm foundation, there is no limit to the defensive outfit that can be erected upon it; neither is there any limit to the weight of guns, the offensive element, that the earth can bear.'

"It is estimated that seven years will be required for digging the Nicaragua Canal, and that the cost of it will be not more than \$125,000,000. This is an extreme estimate; the expense would probably be less. I may mention incidentally that the Panama Canal has already cost \$270,000,000. Newly invented machinery has made this kind of digging vastly cheaper than it used to be, the estimate being 19 cents a cubic yard for earth and 20 cents a cubic yard for rock. In all, there are about 121,250,000 cubic yards of earth and rock to be removed. This is considerably more than was required in the case of the Suez Canal, where 80,000,000 cubic yards were handled. The Suez Canal cost \$100,000,000; it is sixty-six miles long, and the digging of it took nine years."

"The distance to be traversed across the Nicaragua neck is 160 miles, but 120 of this is open water, furnished by the San Juan River and by Lake Nicaragua. It other words, the river mentioned supplies a natural canal for a large part of the way, while the lake out of which it flows—an immense body of water, ninety miles long by forty miles wide—furnishes excellent navigation. Thus there are only forty-eight miles of canal to be dug, seventeen miles of this being along the Las Lajas, on the west shore of Lake Nicaragua, to Brito Head, on the Pacific coast. From Greytown, on the Atlantic side, to Lake Nicaragua is about one hundred miles, but three-quarters of this is practicable by the San Juan River. All of the digging will be done, of course, with the most improved machinery, and an object lesson will be given in the wonders which may be accomplished with steam shovels, rock-cutting apparatus, cantilever cranes, and other such instruments for digging up sections of the landscape and removing them bodily."

AMONG the features of the remarkable speech delivered at Wakefield, in Yorkshire, by Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamberlain, the one which attracted the most attention was probably the point which he made when he declared that the Anglo-American alliance was being brought about independently of the two governments by means of marriages between American girls and Englishmen. Secretary Chamberlain was, moreover, right when he insisted that matrimonial unions of this kind were becoming more and more frequent. Just at the present moment there are two new ones of considerable importance on the tapis. One is a reported engagement of Miss Pauline Astor to the young Duke of Roxburghe, while the other is a contemplated match between Miss May Goelet and Prince Francis of Teck.

Miss Pauline Astor, as every one knows, is the only daughter of William Waldorf Astor and of his wife, who as Mamie Paul was the foremost of the Philadelphia debutantes in the Winter of 1870. Her father was a lawyer of modest circumstances, and while her brother James married Miss Fannie Drexel, a union which brought with it a partnership in the banking house of Drexel, the most popular and best known of her brothers was Lieutenant Alan Paul, of the United States Navy. Miss Pauline Astor, who has inherited much of the beauty of her dead mother, has been brought up almost entirely in England, where her father has for more than ten years past made his home. It is difficult to estimate the fortune which she will eventually receive. But it will probably be in the neighborhood of \$50,000,000, and as such she may be regarded as the wealthiest American heiress who has ever wedded a European nobleman.

The Duke of Roxburghe, to whom she is stated to be affianced, is one of the most popular members of the British aristocracy. He cannot be de-

scribed as a fortune hunter, as he is the possessor of a rent roll of some \$300,000 per annum, in addition to which he has a very large amount of ready money at his disposal which accumulated during his minority. Very carefully brought up, he has managed to keep his name singularly free from scandal, and has travelled considerably both in Africa and in the Orient. His mother is a sister of the late Duke of Marlborough, whom he greatly resembles in appearance, manner, intellect and brilliancy. As yet he has shown none of the evil traits which blinded people to the many splendid qualities of the late Duke of Marlborough, and recalls rather the delightful and pleasing portrait drawn of the latter by the late Lord Beaconsfield in his novel "Lothair" under the pseudonym of Lord St. Aldegonde.

The Duke of Roxburghe succeeded to his father's peerage about six years ago. The ancestral seat of the family is Floors Castle, a striking edifice on the banks of the Tweed, which is the border line between England and Scotland. It is a magnificent pile, and was built about two centuries ago on the site of an older castle particularly rich in historical associations. Some of the loveliest reaches of the Tweed are through and round about the park of Floors, affording salmon fishing that is unsurpassed anywhere in Scotland.

The young Duke has inherited the taste for salmon fishing of his father, though he has not yet managed to break the latter's magnificent record of thirty-one large salmon in his own rod in one day. He has likewise inherited the habit of attending to the politics of his parent, namely, the Liberal Unionist doctrine, the latter having been a staunch adherent of Mr. Gladstone until the latter took up Home Rule.

With regard to the projected union between Miss May Goelet and Prince Francis of Teck, the

young American heiress, whose fortune is estimated at \$20,000,000, will have to pay heavily for the social advantage of becoming sister-in-law to the future Queen of England and Empress of India, for Francis of Teck is the somewhat disreputable brother of the Duchess of York. He was engaged at one moment to Nellie Bass, the celebrated brewer. But Miss Bass broke the engagement in consequence of the character of the Prince and gave her hand instead to a young Scotch commander, Mr. Baillie, of Doonfour. Prince Francis, it is true, distinguished himself during the recent operations in the Sudan, and won a decoration.

But the reason for his being in the Sudan was that he had been sent away in disgrace from England a couple of years ago for having while serving as subaltern of a cavalry regiment at Dublin lost \$50,000 on a single horse at the Punchtown races. He would have been posted as a defaulter and warned off the turf as a welsker had not the Queen, the Duke of Cambridge, his uncle, and the Duke of York, his brother-in-law, all contributed to get him out of this scrape, as he did not have the means of meeting his debt, being entirely dependent on his small allowance of \$3,000 per annum. Even aside from this he is heavily in debt, and for ten years past his paper—that is to say, his promissory notes—has been regarded as a drug on the market by the cent per cent gentry in London.

Disipated, extravagant, prematurely aged, and not precisely noted for his cleverness, but rather for his stupidity, he is scarcely the kind of husband to whom a fond mother would care to give her only daughter, unless maternal sentiment were blinded by social ambition, as is believed to be the case with the widowed Mrs. Ogden Goelet.

CHOLLY KNICKERBOCKER.

MR. BARNACLE ON A BICYCLE.

CHARLES DRYDEN DESCRIBES THE MISHAPS OF A MARINER.

WHEN that estimable mariner, Mr. Barnacle, reported at the Bigger Club last night, it was readily seen that he had piled up on a lee shore at no remote date. Bill wore one arm in a canvas sling, the left side of his face was scratched and bruised down to the high whisker mark, and he limped visibly in both legs. "Election bet?" queried the president, as Bill lowered himself gently into a chair. "Naw; bloomin' bicycle."

"That's another point on which steps must be taken by this club," the president said, with feeling. "Bikes is altogether too reckless. They think they owns the streets, and don't care nothing for lives and legs. Did you have him arrested, Bill?"

"I'll just his head if he does it again," roared the mariner. "He knowed I couldn't do it, being too old and likewise clumsy, but the skipper said I was a peach and could ride with the best of 'em."

"Have you been aboard of one of them bicycles?" gasped the club.

"Do I look as if I had stayed on deck or took

ing Wave into this port. George didn't take none to golf and bicycles in them days, but he went adrift recent in Philadelphia, I hear, and learned how to sella bike. Then wot does this pirate bod offer to terra me navigation aboard a blooming craft that wot keep an even keel or answer her helm, no matter w'ch way it's put."

"The way about it was this: Morehouse he says to me, 'Bill, you aint healthy enough in your old age. Learn to sella bike in the park and smell the busting buds in the early watch and hear the sparrers twit in the leafy dells. It will do you good.'

"The skipper is that pot-eat' I was plumb carried away with the scheme, special when he said he'd learn me in a minute. So Morehouse shang-haled me out to the park last Friday, where I chartered a light craft of eighty tons, with low freeboard and a high poop deck like one of these here old Spanish galleons. The steering gear war well up forward, but the skipper showed me how to man the rig. Then I got aboard and he shored off."

"Keep her steady as she goes," says Morehouse, so I puts the tiller amidships, but the gosh-blinded thing listed bad."

"Trim ship!" yells the skipper. Up I crawls to windward, and ank me if she didn't list the other way and capsize complete."

"Wot did you do that for?" asks that fool,

Morehouse. "Any seaman," I says, 'knows enough to keep the weather side on a lee roll. This craft is too cranky. Wot she needs is double blye keels and likewise rolling chocks,' I says. 'Then a man can handle her.'

"Morehouse he picks the gravel out of my face and allows I'm all right. 'You'll grow used to the roll,' he says, and then I gets under way again. For a minute she holds her course straight and proper with never a lurch; then she yaws frightful, leaving a wake like a ram's horn. The skipper allowed I carried too much canvas aft, but I didn't have time to brail up none before she rounded to with a jerk that bustled the steering gear and pitched me clean over the knighthoods."

"Let go the anchor!" yells the skipper, but she was hard aground then, with me jammed under the forefoot, regular stove up and wrecked."

"Wot run into me?" I says to Morehouse. "Nolthin'," he says. 'You tried for to cross your own bows, and I aint got no more patience with such a muttonhead! Go back to the water front! Street cars is your limit!'

"With that the skipper sets a course for the Canal, and aint no more the kind of junk that I chartered from posted reinsurance on the blasted craft, and I had to pay it, too."

After a short discussion the Bigger Club unanimously decided that Mr. Barnacle met his just punishment for sailing on Friday.

CHARLES DRYDEN.